

REMARKS

Claims 1-5, 7-18, 20-22, 25-34, 37-38, 41-43, 45-47, 49-53, 55-58, and 61-70 are currently pending in the application. As indicated above, Claim 30 has been amended. It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner had found allowable subject matter in Claims 9, 10, 18, 31, 42, 43, and 55.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 12-17, 20-22, 26-30, 32-34, 37, 38, 41, 45-47, 50-53, 56-58, 61, 62, 64-66, 68, and 69 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Markarian et al.* (U.S. 6,553,539 B1) in view of Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA), Claims 11, 63, 67, and 70 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Markarian* in view of AAPA, and further in view of *Nakakita et al.* (U.S. 6,061,820), and Claims 25 and 49 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Markarian* in view of AAPA, and further in view of *Williamson et al.* (U.S. 6,615,387 B1).

However, the present application claims priority to Korean Patent Application Nos. 27407/1999, 30095/1999, and 37496/1999, filed July 8, 1999, July 23, 1999, and August 30, 1999, respectively, in the Korean Industrial Property Office. The alleged prior art that the Examiner has cited in all rejections, specifically *Markarian*, has a U.S. filing date of September 9, 1999, which is after the priority dates of the present application. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that *Markarian* is not prior art in regards to the present application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that all rejections of the pending claims be withdrawn.

Accordingly, Certified Translations of the Korean Patent Application Nos. 27407/1999, 30095/1999, and 37496/1999, are enclosed herewith, as is required by 37 C.F.R. 1.55.

Accordingly, all of the claims pending in the Application, namely, Claims 1-5, 7-18, 20-22, 25-34, 37-38, 41-43, 45-47, 49-53, 55-58, and 61-70, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference or personal interview would facilitate resolution of any remaining matters, the Examiner may contact Applicants' attorney at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul J. Farrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Paul" and last name "Farrell" clearly distinguishable.

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